Failure to deposit of P.F. amount

926. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Kanpur U.P. has identified serious lapses against U.P. Export Corporation Limited, Kanpur for its failure to deposit PF amounts of the employees;

(b) whether the company is unable to settle dues of the retiring employees;

(c) whether Government have taken up the issue with the State of U.P. for directing their company to observe and follow rules and regulations; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pending formal exemption, the U.P. Export Corporation Limited Kanpur was allowed relaxation to manage their provident fund as an exempted establishment. The RPFC Kanpur noted serious default and, therefore, directed the establishment to comply with the provisions of the Act with effect from 1.2.95 as an unexempted establishment. The establishment has also been directed to transfer the past P.F. accumulations to the RPFC, Uttar Pradesh in the prescribed manner. As such, the claims under the fund are required to be settled by the RPFC, U.P. not by the establishment.

(c) and (d) The RPFC, U.P. who is concerned with the matter has already taken necessary action. As such, the question of taking up the issue with the State Government does not arise.

Country's position in respect of child labour in the world

927. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of child labourers in the country is comparatively higher than that in other developing countries of the world;

(b) if so, the place of India in the world in respect of the number of child labourers; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) As per the 1981 census India has a child labour population of 13.64 million. However, as per 43rd Round of the National Sample Survey, 1987, the number of child labour is estimated at 17.02 million. As reported by the World Labour Report, 1992, published by ILO, India has probably the largest number of working children. However, in India, the percentage of children to the total labour force was 5.03 as per 1981 census, whereas the ILO Report mentions that several Asian & African countries have child labour workers accounting for upto 16% of their labour force.

(c) Government have already taken several steps to tackle the problem of child labour. A comprehensive law, the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act was enacted in 1986. Government are also considering to amend this Law to make it more effective. As per the National Child Labour Policy, 1987, child labour is being tackled through (a) Legislation (b) General Development Programmes for benefit of child labour; and (d) through implementation of National Child Labour Projects. India is also a participant in the ILO's International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC). In addition, the Government of India's efforts to tackle the

child labour problem are being assisted by the ILO's initiative called Child Labour Action & Support Programme. In September, 1994, the National Authority for the Elimination of Child Labour was constituted under the Chairmanship of Union Minister of Labour. The Authority has adopted a plan of action titled "Identification, Release and Rehabilitation of Child Labour" to tackle the problem of child labour in the country. briefly it calls for a converagence of services and schemes of the Central and State Governments at the implementing level the District — to effectively handle the child labour elimination effort.

In addition, to safeguard the interests of children, there are protective provisions in various Labour Laws as well, such as the Factories Act, 1948, the Mines Act, 1952, the Motor Transport (Workers) Act, 1961 etc. The approach of the Government is to implement all the child related provisions of the Laws in a harmonious fashion. Enforcement machinery at the Central and State level exist to enforce the provisions of these Acts. Employers are liable to be prosecuted for violations of the provisions of the Acts. Enforcement personnel are being given special training for better enforcement of these laws.

ESI hospitals in Andhra Pradesh

928. SHRI T. VENKATARAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present Employees State Insurance Hospitals in Andhra Pradesh are sufficient to meet the health needs of the workers in the State;

(b) if not, whether Government propose to open some more ESI Hospitals in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the allocations likely to be made by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) There are eight ESI hospitals functioning in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Wherever necessary, beds have also been reserved in other hospitals for providing adequate indoor treatment to Insured Persons. Mean-while the ESI Corporation has decided to construct three hospitals i.e. one each at Nacharam, Tirupati and Nizamabad. For construction of these hospitals the Corporation has sanctioned a sum of Rs. 1904 74 lakhs.

Persons registered with employment exchanges in Delhi

929. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of post graduate persons registered with the employment exchanges in the country, particularly in Delhi during the last three years;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) the number of persons given employment during the year 1993-94 and how many persons will be provided jobs during the period 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Available information is contained in the statement. (*See* below).

(c) The number of persons placed in employment during 1993-94 and 1994-95 is furnished below:

(In thousands)

Year	All India	Delhi
1993-94	222.6	14.9
1994-95 (April-December, 94)	157.7	11.1